

Why IPRO is the Best Fit TOS for Conventional Intermodal Terminals

Conventional terminals face many of the same challenges as large automated facilities, including reducing bottlenecks, improving equipment tracking, and streamlining daily workflows.

Many rail hubs recognize the value of a modern terminal operating system (TOS) to digitize and automate their operations. But conventional terminal operators often assume this technology is too complex for their needs, leading them to stick with legacy systems they believe are “good enough.”

The problem? It assumes that operators at conventional terminals must choose between upgrading to a new TOS with perceived cumbersome planning or sticking with outdated software that supports their manual operations.

Tideworks’ Intermodal PRO (IPRO) suite offers a smarter path forward, bringing next-generation TOS capabilities to both strategic rail hubs and conventional terminals. IPRO adapts to each site’s operations with a configurable, right-sized platform that can expand as network and business needs evolve.

IPRO TOS—Designed to scale to your unique needs

Rail operators often worry that a modern TOS will force conventional terminals to adopt slower processes or features they don’t need. Tideworks designed the IPRO suite to avoid that.

With IPRO, you can:

- Scale and adapt yard and rail planning as needed
- Maintain an operator-led environment
- Keep existing workflows intact

The IPRO TOS suite supports the workflow of conventional terminals. When outbound loading, operators at conventional terminals typically prefer shotgunning over planned loading. They don’t want a TOS that forces processes designed for larger automated terminals and doesn’t take their current operations into account.



The tangible benefits of IPRO

Conventional terminals can unlock the full value of digitization—more efficient operations, greater visibility, and fewer manual errors.

Intuitive graphical interface

Provides real-time visualizations that let teams monitor operations and resolve issues as they arise. The interface is accessible anywhere in the yard using standard mobile devices.

Higher productivity

By reducing mistakes and enabling more proactive management, IPRO helps terminals improve utilization, lower operating costs, and boost day-to-day productivity.

Expanded visibility

Delivers deeper operational insights that legacy tools can’t provide, giving teams the information they need to make smarter, faster decisions.

More efficient rail planning

With flexible rail planning tools that align with existing workflows, IPRO helps teams execute moves correctly the first time.

Support for future transformation

Conventional terminals can configure IPRO to offer exactly the features they need right now, and if operators decide they need additional features over time, all they need to do is turn them on.

“You can go from being an all-wheeled facility to deciding you need stacking capabilities,” says Scott Duncan, Senior Professional Services Consultant at Tideworks. “To do that, you just need to make some configuration changes. You don’t have to upgrade, you don’t have to buy a new module—it’s all already there.”

There’s a better way than the status quo

Rail networks with both strategic hubs and conventional terminals can bring every site onto one adaptable TOS. With IPRO, Tideworks enables conventional terminals to upgrade to a modern, easy to use system tailored to their workflows. Operation stays in the hands of the people on the ground.

